

## **PET SAFETY ADVICE OFFERED BY NJ POISON CONTROL CENTER**

There are many items in and around your home that are poisonous to pets. Thousands of dogs and cats are accidentally poisoned, in their own homes, each year. Many common household items are toxic to pets and can pose potentially life-threatening problems. Antifreeze, batteries, chocolate, mothballs, tobacco and houseplants can kill, even in small amounts. Proper storage of potentially toxic substances is extremely important. A quick response, when your pet has been exposed to a toxic substance, may save its life.

It takes only moments for permanent damage to occur. Do not wait until your pet looks sick. Call the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) at 1-800-222-1222, immediately if you suspect a poisoning. Watch for changes in behavior in your pet and any bleeding or breathing difficulty.

Have the following information available if possible:

- Exact name of the plant or poison.
- How much the animal ate or came in contact with.
- How long ago exposure or ingestion occurred.
- The animal's weight.

For immediate treatment advice, as well as for prevention information. We are available 24 hours per day, everyday. Call 1-800-222-1222. You can call NJPIES to get help in a poison emergency, for poison prevention information, for drug information or to get treatment advice following an animal bite. Trained medical professionals handle all calls. They will tell you what to do if you, your child or your pet is poisoned. The New Jersey Poison Control Center staff is ready to answer questions about poisons in your home and provides a wealth of information regarding general poison prevention. 1-800-222-1222.

Remember, Help Is Just A Phone Call Away!